

Amendments to the Specification

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

-- This application claims the benefit, under 35 U.S.C. § 365 of International Application PCT/FR03/02482, filed August 7, 2003, which was published in accordance with PCT Article 21(2) on February 26, 2004 in French and which claims the benefit of Italian patent application No. 02A001824, filed August 13, 2002. --

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 9 on page 1.

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 2 on page 3.

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 20 on page 3.

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 35 on page 3.

-- DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --